



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Shana Jones, Special Assistant
Daryl Fields, Public Information Officer
(210) 384-7440

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ODESSA BANK ROBBER SENTENCED

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that Jerry Johnny Gasca, 32, of Odessa, was sentenced this afternoon in Midland to sixty months in federal prison for robbing a branch of Southwest Bank in Odessa on November 19, 2007.

In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Robert Junell ordered Gasca to serve three years on supervised release following his release from federal prison.

By pleading guilty on January 17, 2008, Gasca admitted that while wearing a black baseball cap and a hooded jacket to obscure his face, he went into the bank, located on W. 8th St., and handed a teller a note, stating: "This is a robbery! Be calm hand me all 20's, 50's, 100's plus your stacks. Thank you have a nice day!" The teller complied with Gasca's demand, giving him more than \$15,000 in currency. Gasca was seen departing the bank premises in a Buick LeSabre.

A tip soon led Odessa Police Department officers and Federal Bureau of Investigation agents to Gasca. A federal search warrant was executed at his residence on November 20, 2007 and all but \$873.31 of the stolen money was recovered. Much of the cash was still bundled in Southwest Bank currency sleeves.

Assistant United States Attorney Glenn Roque-Jackson prosecuted this case on behalf of the Government.

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